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Bottle bomb discovered

Four suspects identified

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On Sunday, June 14 officials from the Duxbury Police and Fire Departments responded to a report of suspicious objects present in the area of Franklin Street and Valley Street. The official Duxbury Police Department Twitter feed made a post at 3:34 p.m. on Sunday notifying motor vehicle operators that Valley Street from Route 53 to Franklin Street was “temporarily closed to through traffic due to officials investigating the area.”

The area was cordoned off as officials were investigating a report of a suspicious package, believed to be a bottle bomb, that was found in the 70 block of Valley Street.

Duxbury PD posted on Twitter at 4:11 p.m. that Valley Street was reopened for through traffic.

The suspicious package

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Duxbury Fire Chief Kevin Nord explains the bottle bomb incidents to the media.

Courtesy Photo

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was indeed an explosive device containing acid. It was discovered inside a mailbox at the Valley Street residence.

A bomb technician from the Massachusetts State Police responded to the call. Through a disruption process, the technician rendered the bomb inactive. The scene was cleared at approximately 5:30 p.m.

At 7 p.m. a homeowner in the 1277 block of Franklin Street noticed what he believed to be trash on his front lawn. Upon further investigation, the homeowner contacted emergency services after discovering a potential second explosive device.

The second device was also rendered safe and taken into evidence. After conducting a thorough search of the area, no other threats were identified.

Officials transmitted a reverse 9-1-1 message to the affected area, describing the day's events while urging residents to dial 9-1-1 if they discover a similar device.

Roughly 30 minutes later, Duxbury PD released the preliminary findings of its investigation on Twitter. Two plastic bottles, converted into homemade chemical explosive devices, were located in the area of investigation near Valley Street and Franklin Street.

On Monday morning, both Duxbury PD Chief Matthew Clancy and Duxbury Fire Chief Kevin Nord held separate press conferences to give further details on the investigation.

Duxbury Police Detectives and its School Resource Officer have identified a group of four juveniles who were witnessed running to the area of the home on Valley Street.

A witness to the event contacted police after observing the group of juveniles fleeing the area where the initial device was discovered.

Based on the testimony from the witness, police detectives located the nearby home where the group had fled, and in the presence of a parent, interviewed a juvenile at that residence in connection with the earlier incidents. Officials confirmed that the juvenile had previously viewed a YouTube video giving instructions on how to construct the type of device found earlier in the day by the authorities. Detectives have preliminarily identified additional potential suspects with interviews currently being conducted. The suspects are 14 to 15 years of age. Individuals found to be responsible for these acts will face charges in juvenile court. As the investigation currently stands, officials believe the act was a prank played on a youth at the victims residence. The youth is an acquaintance of the group of juvenile suspects.

Duxbury Police officials believe that this incident was not a random act, and as such, authorities believe that there is no general threat to the public.

The authorities encourage anyone who may encounter a similar chemical object to clear the area and dial 9-1-1 immediately.



Remnants of the bottle bomb discovered by emergency personnel.

Courtesy Photo